



MICHAEL J. MURTAGH
Candidate for Mayor

Elect **MICHAEL J.** **MURTAGH** *Mayor*

FELLOW CITIZENS OF PEABODY:

This is my second letter to you concerning this mayoralty campaign of our city.

The purpose of this letter is simply to give you a summary of what I have attempted to do as part of my duty to inform you, the voters, what this Mayor's record is regarding the administration of the city's business for the last eight years.

When I say part of my duty, I mean that it was my duty, and it still is, to inform you of the Mayor's record in order to enable you to determine for whom you should vote.

THE RECORD SHOWS THE MAYOR IS GUILTY OF:

(1) Violating the law in making Mr. Jean J. Chalifour, his former brother-in-law, the Chairman of the Board of Appeals for the purpose of using him to control the decisions of that Board for a period of four years, which he did. So, that Board was not the Appeal Board; it was the Mayor's Board. Therefore, during that period of time, no one could get a decision from that Board in his favor unless he could satisfy the demands of either the Mayor or Mr. Chalifour;

(2) Illegally attempting to extort \$800 from the Adamses in order to connect the city's water supply from the Adamses' home. I have also accused the City Solicitor of participating in this hold-up case;

(3) Illegally attempting with the City Solicitor again to extort \$750 from Mrs. Sabino, a woman with eight children, to connect the city's water supply to her house;

(4) Allowing his City Solicitor to appear for building developers before the Appeal Board, while he was on the city's payroll, which is contrary to the law. In one particular case, he appeared for Campanelli Builders, Inc., and, according to the records of the Registry of Deeds, he succeeded in getting 10 lots of land from Campanelli Builders, Inc. without paying a dime for them;

(5) Violating the law in appointing Mr. Leonard

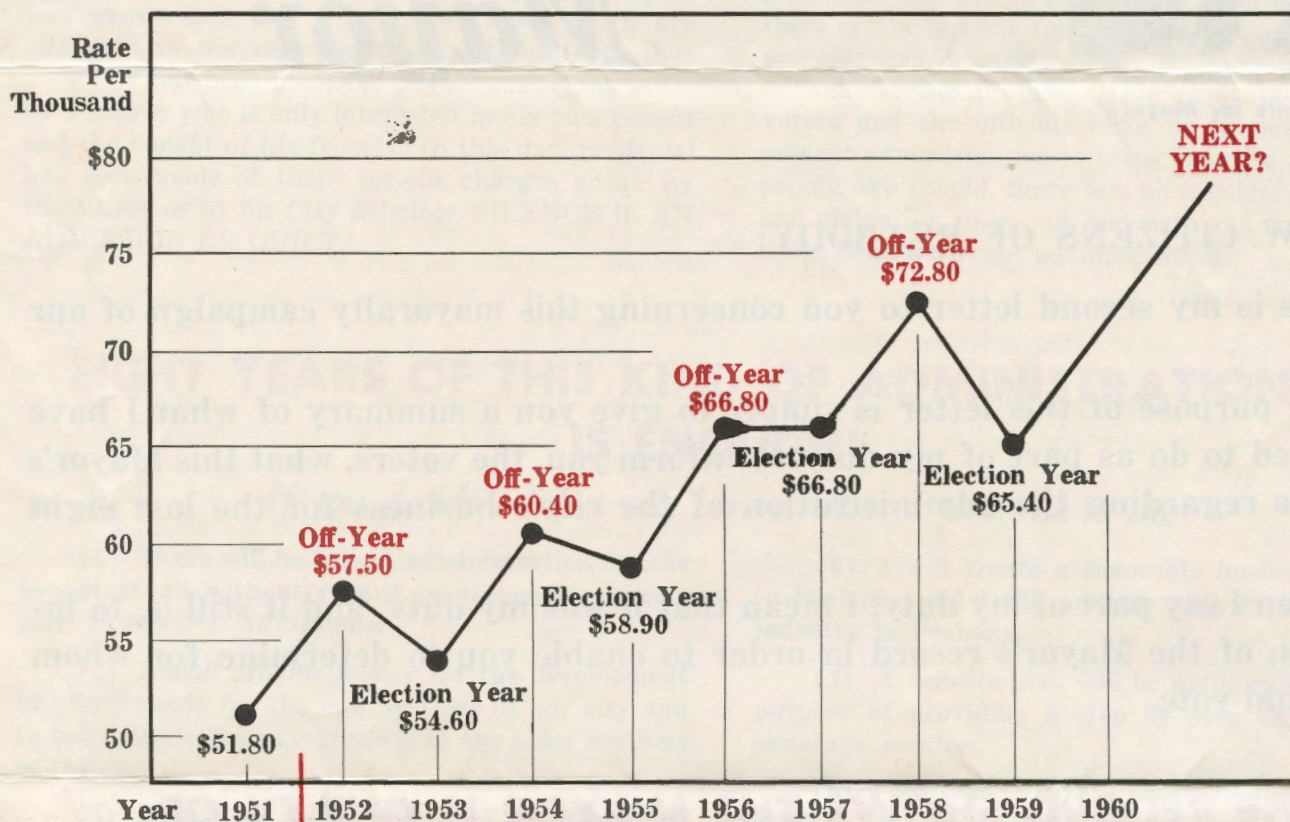
Clark as Chairman of the Appeal Board, after Mr. Chalifour was forced to resign by court action, for the purpose of again controlling the decisions of the Appeal Board which he is doing to this day;

(6) Spending hundreds and thousands of dollars of the taxpayers' money for the purpose of extending the city's water system to Russell Street where there were very few houses at the time, and of doing that in order to enable his former brother-in-law and himself to build 316 houses there and thus make great sums of money by having city water available;

(7) Deceiving the trustees, the doctors, and the

staff of the J. B. Thomas Hospital, and all the citizens of this community, by making false statements and promises for the last eight years that he would enlarge and improve the services of the hospital, and he is still doing the same thing this year in his ads in the various local papers for the purpose of being re-elected;

(8) Reducing the tax rate to create a phony tax rate for the purpose of deceiving the taxpayers in order to be re-elected again. That this is a phony tax rate requires no argument except the record of this Mayor's tax rates since he took office. This is clearly shown by the following graph.



O'DONNELL'S PHONY TAX RATES

(9) Interfering with the right of the citizens of our city to vote for a candidate of their own choice for Mayor by resorting to threats and intimidation. He has threatened many good citizens with reprisals, directly and through his City Solicitor, unless they go out and work for his re-election. Thus, he interferes with a free election, contrary and in violation of the spirit of the democratic form of government;

(10) Not providing adequate school facilities

to take care of the children of our growing population;

(11) Violating the election laws by having six persons registered at 31 Harris Street, Peabody, in order to help him be re-elected. This house is boarded up and no one has lived there since May 16, 1957. Yet, according to the voting list of this year, six members of the Mayor's family who do not live in Peabody were registered to vote at that house and they vote in the election.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF THAT "HAUNTED HOUSE"



If you are not convinced that this picture is the actual house, go and look at the house at 31 Harris Street, and you will be convinced of the truth of my accusation. This is just one case of many other cases of illegally registered voters;

(12) Perpetrating, with the aid of his City Solicitor, a vicious fraud upon the citizens of this community in the Flynn Case. Mr. Flynn, a lineman in the Electric Light Plant, was elected to the office of Commissioner of the Municipal Light Plant in 1955, and took that office in January, 1956. In February, 1956, the City Solicitor, at that time, Mr. Daniel L. Tumulty, rendered an opinion that Mr. Flynn could not be a Commissioner and an employee of the Electric Light Plant at the same time. This opinion was contested by Mr. Flynn before the Supreme Judicial Court of our state. The Supreme Judicial Court upheld Mr. Tumulty. After this case Mr. Tumulty died and Mr. Abraham Ankeles became the City Solicitor on August 30, 1956. The Mayor, working with his new City Solicitor, appointed Mr. Flynn as Superintendent of the Moth and Shade Tree Department. This appointment was never submitted to the Council for confirmation even though that is the requirement of the law. The law clearly states that all such appointments are subject to the confirmation of the City Council. Despite that requirement of the law, Mr. Flynn has been illegally exercising all the powers of the office of Superintendent of the Tree Department and has been receiving, and is receiving to this day, a weekly wage of \$105.04:

The Commissioners of the Electric Light Plant recently asked Mr. Ankeles, the present City Solicitor, whether or not Mr. Flynn could be a Commissioner of the Light Plant and a Superintendent of

the Tree Department at the same time. Mr. Ankeles ruled that he could despite the fact that both Mr. Tumulty and the Supreme Judicial Court said that he could not hold two jobs in the city at the same time. So, Mr. Flynn is today the Electric Light Commissioner, and he is today receiving \$105.04 every week as Superintendent of the Tree Department.

This evidently was not enough to satisfy either Mr. Flynn, the City Solicitor, or the Mayor because Mr. Flynn has been receiving money on the side from a company known as Carpenter-Costin Company. This company was hired by the Electric Light Commission to supervise the trimming of trees in our city this year so that the trees would not interfere with our electric light lines. On every bill paid to Carpenter-Costin Company by the city there has been a sum of \$75 for "SUPERVISION." This \$75 paid to Carpenter-Costin Company was paid over to Mr. Kenneth Flynn, the Tree Department Superintendent and the Electric Light Commissioner.

So, Mr. Flynn is getting paid twice for the same work in the Tree Department and is at the same time the Electric Light Commissioner. The payments of this money to Mr. Flynn amount to \$510 during this summer when the work was done. This means that Mr. Flynn is getting an additional \$75 per week, while this work was being done in addition to his \$105.04 a week paid by the city. All of these payments have been approved by the Mayor.

This is clearly a case of fraud upon the citizens of our community. This is a case where one of the high officials of this administration has been put in a position to hold two jobs and to receive payment on the side in addition by using a secret device so that he could get some extra money.

These facts are a matter of record on the city's books, in the Supreme Judicial Court, and in the records of Carpenter-Costin Company.

(13) The Mayor is guilty of permitting his City Solicitor to represent land speculators and developers before the Planning Board while on the payroll of the city. The City Solicitor, by doing this, is using his influence to get fees contrary to law. No wonder building developers don't have to put in services in their Peabody developments which other towns and cities require. No wonder housing developments are allowed next to piggeries.

The cases above cited are serious cases of fraud and collusion in the management of our city by the Mayor and his City Solicitor. I could go on and give you more cases, but I think the cases given are sufficient to convince you voters of the truth that your city has been managed for the last eight years by a Mayor who is only interested in his own benefit and the benefit of his friends. To this day, no denial has been made of these serious charges either by the Mayor or by his City Solicitor. SILENCE IS AN ADMISSION OF GUILT.

These cases are of extreme importance to know about. They are factual reports of what has been going on under this administration. There is a direct connection between these cases of fraud and collusion and the lack of desire of this Mayor to do anything about the uncontrolled growth of our city. The connection is found in his desire to use uncontrolled growth to exploit the people. As long as we have a Mayor of this kind whose interest is only in himself and his friends, we can never hope to have a constructive program for progress in the city of Peabody.

Now that you have the Mayor's record of eight years, what are you going to do on Tuesday, November 3? That decision is left in your hands. To quote a famous democratic philosopher: "In a democracy there can be but one fundamental test of citizenship, namely: Are you using such gifts as you possess for or against the people?" This test applies to the voters and the officials alike. It is clear that the present administration is using its gifts against the people. We should, therefore, all consider it our duty and obligation to go out and vote and take the city away from a corrupt administration.

EIGHT YEARS OF THIS KIND OF ADMINISTRATION IS ENOUGH!

If you decide to elect me, here is what I promise to do:

(1) There will be honest administration for the benefit of all without regard to nationality, creed, race or political affiliations.

(2) I shall provide money for the development of playgrounds for the new sections of our city and to rehabilitate the playgrounds in the older sections of the city.

(3) I shall see that the laws of the State and Ordinances of our city are strictly enforced.

(4) There will be strict enforcement of zoning laws and elimination of all illegal gravel pits.

(5) I shall see that money is provided for the proper and efficient function of the Planning Board. Our city is growing every day, and it becomes absolutely necessary to improve the efficiency of the Planning Board to cope with the growth of our city.

(6) I will create a favorable business climate in Peabody, and I will actively seek to attract new industry to Peabody.

(7) A definite plan will be inaugurated for the purpose of providing a step by step expansion of sewerage service.

(8) I shall see to it that adequate provisions are made for the education of our children by providing for facilities and personnel at the time and place needed.

(9) I shall take the necessary steps to enlarge our hospital's capacity and to improve its efficiency.

If you decide to change this administration, please go out and vote on November 3, 1959, between the hours of 10 A.M. and 8 P.M. for Michael J. Murtagh, Candidate for Mayor.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL J. MURTAGH

Candidate for Mayor.